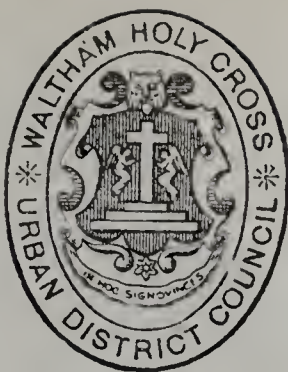


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HEALTH
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WALTHAM HOLY CROSS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year ending December 31st, 1956

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Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1956:

Chairman : Councillor Mr. O. Edwards

Members :

Councillor : Mr. M. C. Barrett

„ Mr. E. W. Broe

„ Mr. L. C. Elsom

„ Mr. J. Halliday

„ Mr. K. W. Meekin

„ Mr. A. N. Matthews

Chairman of Council *ex-officio* : Mr. T. C. Grove

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

Mr. W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Examination Joint Board.*

*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute of Inspector of Meat
and Other Foods.*

Clerks :

Mrs. E. J. BIRD (To 30th April, 1956)

Miss P. A. READ (From 1st May, 1956)

WALTHAM HOLY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report, including the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report, for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

In the statistical tables which follow, births and deaths have been corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers—i.e., they refer only to persons who normally reside in the District, and they include all births and deaths among them wherever occurring. They have also been adjusted to allow for any difference in the age and sex distribution of the local population when compared with the averages for England and Wales. Infectious diseases, however, are allocated to the district in which they arise irrespective of place of normal residence of the patient. All rates and figures include members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area.

Vital Statistics.

There was a notable increase in the population of the district from 9,130 to 10,030. As the natural increase (i.e. excess of births over deaths) was only 110, the most part of this increase appears to be due to immigration into the District from outside.

Birth rate and Death rate both declined slightly but not significantly. As usual, diseases of the heart and circulation, and cancer, accounted for most of the deaths. There were no maternal deaths, and only one infant death, though four persons died as a result of road accidents.

Infectious Diseases.

Small, mild, outbreaks of measles (63 cases), whooping cough (39 cases) occurred during the year with no fatalities. There were no notified cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

One person was reported to be in need of care and attention, but her needs were dealt with without having recourse to the above Act.

In concluding, I would again like to record my appreciation to the staff of the Public Health Department for their continued help and co-operation, and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year.

H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in Acres	....	....	10,959
Civilian Population (mid 1956)	....	....	10,030
No. of inhabited houses (at 31st December, 1956)			3,030
Rateable Value	....	....	£168,057
Sum represented by a penny rate	....	....	£610

Vital Statistics.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	114	70	184
Illegitimate	1	0	1

Total 185

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	16.4	15.7

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births : Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	0	1	1

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	31.4	23.0

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths (all causes)	42	33	75

(Registrar General's Figures)

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Corrected Death rate per 1,000 population	9.3	11.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Total 1

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks old	1	0	1
	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales	
Death rate of infants under 1 year (per 1,000 live births)	11.8	23.8	
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under age 2 years	0	0	
Maternal Deaths (per 1,000 total births)	0	0.56	

Causes of Death as given by the Registrar General for the Year 1956

	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of lung and bronchus	2	0	2
Cancer (all other sites)	4	6	10
Coronary Disease and Angina	9	4	13
All other diseases of heart and circulation	5	9	14
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	7	7	14
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Bronchitis	5	0	5
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	0	1
Suicide	0	1	1
Syphillis	1	0	1
Road accidents	2	2	4
Other accidents	1	0	1
All other causes	4	2	6
	—	—	—
	42	33	75
	—	—	—

Death Rates per Million of Population

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Cancer of lung and bronchus	1060 199	407
Cancer (all other sites)	1167 997	1668
Tuberculosis of respiratory organs	0	109

SECTION B

General Provisions of the Health Services in the area

- (a) **Public Health Officers** of the Local Authority (see page 2).
- (b) **Laboratory Facilities.** A Ministry of Health Laboratory operates at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping. Milk, water and ice cream samples are examined at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.
- (c) **Ambulance Facilities.** Transport of the sick and injured and maternity cases is the responsibility of the Essex County Council and is free of charge.

In cases of accident or emergency, an ambulance is obtained by dialling 999 on any Waltham Cross telephone. Where there is no dialling system it is sufficient to lift the receiver and ask for an ambulance to be sent to the place required, or to deliver the message personally at the Fire Station, Romeland, Waltham Abbey. Calls of a non-urgent nature are only accepted from responsible persons in the service, e.g. doctors, nurses, etc.

- (d) **Hospitals.** The hospitals serving the area are administered by the North-East London Regional Hospital Board.

- (e) **Child Welfare.** The Essex County Council (Forest Area) is the Welfare Authority for the district. Clinics are held at the following times at "The Cedars," Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey :—

Child Welfare Centre. Every Friday at 2 p.m.

School Children (minor ailments). 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 11.0 a.m. No charge is made.

Ante-Natal Clinic. Every Monday at 2 p.m.

Women's Welfare. Monday. By appointment only.

Relaxation Class for Expectant Mothers. Every Tuesday afternoon.

Speech Therapist. By appointment only.

Eye Specialist. By appointment only.

Physiotherapist. By appointment only.

Upshire Village Hall (Weighing Centre). Alternate Thursdays at 2.30 p.m.

- (f) **School Health Service.** The Education Authority is the Essex County Council. School nurses inspect the children regularly, and there is a medical inspection at each school not less than once per year. Advice and treatment are provided at the Combined Treatment Centre at the appropriate sessions as listed above.

- (g) **Tuberculosis Service.** Tuberculosis Dispensary at Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey, every Monday at 2 p.m., for new patients.

During the year the Care Association for the area covering the Chigwell, Epping, Waltham Abbey and Ongar districts continued to function. The Association assists cases awaiting admission to sanatorium in various ways and arranges also for admission of child contacts to convalescent homes. It concerns itself also with the after care of patients by assistance in obtaining materials for occupational therapy and whenever possible, suitable employment for those fit to work. The Association is supported by voluntary contributions and receives also a grant from the County Council.

The Honorary Secretary is Mr. A. J. Edwards, 37
Woodland Road, Loughton.

(h) **District Nurses', Health Visitors', Midwives' Services and Home Helps** are provided by the Essex County Council, and administered locally by the Forest Area Health Sub-Committee of the Council. The Area Medical Officer is Dr. F. G. Brown, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H. Municipal Offices, Woodford, E.18, from whom the following statistics have been received :—

Visits paid by Health Visitors.

1st Visits.			Re-Visits.		
Under 1 year	....	195	Under 1 year	....	464
1—5 years	....	Nil	1—5 years	....	484
All others	....	107			

Cases attended by Midwives.

(a)	As Midwives	43
(b)	As Maternity	13
					Total	<hr/> 56 <hr/>

Visits paid by Home Nurses	5446
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Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal	411
Post-Natal	nil

Attendances at Child Welfare Clinics.

Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	2022
Children 1—5 years	....	....	....	477

Attendances at Women's Welfare Clinics.

Birth Control (1st visits)	....	....	....	18
„ (Re-visits)	....	....	....	93
				—
			Total	111
				—

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(Sections C, D & E)

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my 17th Annual Report on the work carried out by the Department during 1956.

All matters pertaining to Public Health were dealt with as expeditiously as possible. As reported last year, in the sphere of housing, slum clearance again claimed precedence over other activities. Four Clearance Areas were the subject of a Public Enquiry. The procedure inaugurated the major programme envisaged by the Local Authority.

Meat inspection took up an increasing amount of my time and other duties suffered as a consequence. I was compelled to ask the Committee to appoint an Assistant to ease the burden of duties in the Department. The request was subsequently considered and an Assistant Public Health Inspector was appointed with effect from 1st April, 1957.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Council, Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and all other colleagues for their invaluable co-operation and assistance during the year.

W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION C.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number of inspections made during the year was 1,844 ; details regarding the nature of these inspections are given in the following tables.

The Department received 129 complaints covering a variety of subjects ; all were dealt with satisfactorily.

Summary.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	264
Number of dwelling houses inspected for other than housing defects	44
Number of premises other than houses inspected	1211
Premises re-inspected	120
Visits to works in progress	66
Miscellaneous visits	139
	<hr/> 1844

Included in the above tables are the following classified visits :—

Bakehouses	9	Dairies	65
Camping Sites	24	Factories	31
Cattle Market	48	Infectious Diseases	49
Petroleum Acts	34	Piggeries	8
Licenced Premises	29	Rats and Mice	32
Shops	155	Slaughterhouses	677
General Market	48	Swimming Pool	2

Details of inspections of food premises and factories are given in the appropriate sections of this report.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	....	264
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal notices	.... ....	22
Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936	1

Petroleum Acts and Regulations.

Licences granted during 1956	34
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34 visits were made to ensure that the requirements of the Acts were being observed. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The sewers were baited as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Results were satisfactory. Systematic inspection of the area was made for the presence of rats and mice. Where premises were found to be infested, "block control" of all premises and sewers in that particular area was operated.

Sewage farms, pumping stations, and all Local Authority premises were visited and action taken where necessary.

No charge is made for work effected at dwelling houses. In accordance with the Ministry's instructions all business premises are charged with the cost of the work carried out.

Requests for assistance were made in three instances where trouble was being caused by wasps nests.

Works effected under the Act to the 31st December, 1956, are as follows :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.			Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agri- cultural
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (inc. Business Premises)		
1. No. of properties in Local Authority's District	18	2889	290	3197	167
2. No. of properties inspect- ed as a result of					
(a) Notification	4	22	10	36	0
(b) Survey under the Act	44	636	139	819	37
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)...	0	0	0	0	0
3. Total inspections ...	48	658	149	855	37
4. No. of properties in- spected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats (<i>Major</i>) ...	2	1	4	7	0
(<i>Minor</i>) ...	12	27	10	49	0
(b) Mice (<i>Major</i>) ...	0	0	0	0	0
(<i>Minor</i>) ...	0	10	8	18	0
5. No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority	14	38	18	70	0
6. Total treatments carried out, inc. re-treatments ...	14	38	18	70	0

Camping Sites.

Number of sites for which licences have been issued by the Local Authority	22
Number of licences issued to station caravans for limited periods	12
Number of campers during 1956 (approximately) ...	700

It is estimated that there are approximately 260 caravans in the area. The Council's site, known as Woodbine Close, is occupied to capacity. There are 56 sites (included in the above estimate) and there is a long waiting list for vacancies.

The Breach Barns site at Galley Hill, where there are now 120 plots occupied, has recently been improved. Sanitary blocks have been erected and the subsequent drainage effectually dealt with by a modern system of purification and disposal.

Other licenced sites comply with the requirements of the Act, having separate privy accommodation for the sexes, an adequate supply of pure water, covered receptacles for refuse and means for the disposal of waste water.

Twenty-four visits were made to the sites during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

The Sewardstone area continues to be polluted with smoke and grit from the Eastern Electricity Board's Power Station at Brimsdown.

Complaints were again received regarding nuisance from a factory chimney in the area. Difficulties were encountered when endeavouring to obtain a better type of fuel. At the time of writing this report the firm have intimated that they have placed an order for the installation of chain grate stokers. It is hoped that full efficiency will result to the benefit and satisfaction of all concerned.

The effect of atmospheric pollution in the area is noticeable in the glasshouse industry in particular. Growers are moving away from the area to districts where the air is clean.

One is assured that there is a difference in output of between five to six tons of tomatoes per acre. Allied to this is the fact that it is possible, because of the admission of light to the glasshouses to obtain a crop at a much earlier date with a consequent better price in the open market.

This situation, coupled with the difficulty of competing with the factories for labour and other economic factors places the growers at a disadvantage. Quite naturally he begins to search for a way out ; he moves to a " cleaner " area.

I am assured that the turnover in the nursery trade approximates a substantial figure. The industry employs a large amount of labour ; an important factor in the economy

of this district. It would appear, however, that pollution of the atmosphere may be a vital factor in contributing towards the removal from the Lea Valley of a major industry. With its obvious economic consequences this could be a serious matter for the area.

Licensed premises.

Twenty-nine visits to licensed premises were made. One premises was found to be in an extremely dilapidated condition. The main walls were fractured and subsidence was evident in all corners of the building. The attention of the owners was drawn to conditions prevailing at the premises.

A scheme of re-conditioning including the "underpinning" of the structure was in state of preparation at the end of the year.

All other premises were found to be clean and well kept. Decorations were being effected in a number of instances.

Sewerage.

The Luthers Area scheme is now complete and, together with the Mott Street/Sewardstone Road Scheme, provides drainage facilities for most of Sewardstone Hamlet.

Owners of properties in this vicinity are being encouraged to connect to the main sewer in order to reduce the number of cesspools.

A scheme is being prepared for the Daws Hill and "Fox and Hounds" areas.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Collection is made weekly from all properties in the area by two modern S.D. vehicles.

Disposal is at a tip at Redrick's Lane, Sawbridgeworth, in co-operation with the Harlow U.D.C.

Trade refuse is collected at a small charge.

Cesspools.

Cesspools are emptied quarterly by Contract.

Roads.

Council maintained streets are scavenged and gullies emptied by direct labour.

Salvage.

Waste paper is collected and sold to a paper pulping firm. Rags and scrap metal are also collected and sold.

Pig food is collected and processed by a local firm holding a contract with the Council.

Public Conveniences.

Conveniences are provided for both sexes at the " King's Oak," High Beech (during the summer months), the Town Hall and Farm Hill Road.

Water Supply.

The district is within the Metropolitan Water Board's area of supply. There are outlying parts of the district which do not receive the benefit of this supply and depend solely on water from shallow wells.

At Claverhambury, the Clapton Stadium Limited supply their dwelling houses and kennels, together with an adjoining dairy farm, with water obtained from an artesian well. Samples of water obtained from wells in various parts of the district were favourably reported upon by the Analyst in each case.

Fly Nuisance.

One gains the impression that the fly nuisance is more prevalent in the Lea Valley than in most other places. Complaints are frequent and nearby nurseries are held to blame.

With a view to abating if not eliminating the nuisance, I contacted the Senior Pestologist of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on this point. He advised that if spent compost, manure, etc. is sprayed with Gamma B.H.C. (Lindane), flies and their larva would thereby be destroyed.

The insecticide can be used as a spray, powder or as a smoke and is not harmful in any way to tomatoes, cucumbers or mushrooms.

The Secretary of the Lea Valley Growers' Association agreed that their members would collaborate by using the insecticide on their premises with a view to combating the fly nuisance. How effectual this will be remains to be seen.

SECTION D.

Housing Statistics

Estates Administered by the Council.

Estate	Houses	Bungalows	Prefabs	Flats and Maisonettes	Total
Beechfield Walk	20	4	33		57
Beech Hill Gardens	16				16
Butler's Drive	16				16
Crooked Mile	4				4
Denny Avenue	62				62
Eastbrook Road	10				10
Farm Hill Road	2				2
Forest Close	10				10
The Gladeway		12			12
Harold Estate	50				50
Pick Hill	105				105
Paternoster Hill	80				80
Princesfield Estate....	160			50	210
Rounton Road		4			4
Tennyson Avenue	20				20
Upshire Road	36				36
	591	20	33	50	694
Acquired Properties	26				26
Requisitioned Units	5				
Beaulieu Hutments	8				13
GRAND TOTAL					733

The total number of families rehoused in Council accommodation during the year amounted to 159 (468 persons), made up as follows :—

New dwellings	....	....	....	97 (298 persons)
Re-lets	....	....	....	50 (127 „)
Transfers	....	....	....	7 (24 „)
Mutual Exchanges	....	....	....	5 (19 „)

Eighteen dwellings scheduled for demolition were cleared, the displaced tenants being re-housed by the Council.

The total number of new dwellings completed during the year was 243, viz :—

Council Properties	....	....	...	....	....	96
Private dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	147

Inspection of dwelling houses under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925, was as follows :—

1.	Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	....	117
2.	Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	....	37
3.	Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to		
	(a) The serving of notices requiring the execution of works	.... .... .... ....	3
	(b) The making of demolition or closing orders		74
4.	Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	.... ... .... .... .... ....	40
5.	Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	.... .... ....	3
6.	Number of demolition or closing orders made	....	18
7.	Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	.... ....	1
8.	Number of houses demolished	.... .... ....	18

Included in the figure of 74 mentioned above are 67 properties which were the subject of representations under Section 154 of the Housing Act, 1936. The properties were divided into four clearance areas.

The Council subsequently decided to proceed by means of Compulsory Purchase Order. Other premises and parcels

of land were included for this purpose. A Public Enquiry was held in October lasting two days. The areas were subsequently visited by the Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

This was the first part of the Council's programme of slum clearance under the Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954. The whole programme has been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and will be dealt with in a period extending over eight years.

The Urban District Council's Engineer and Surveyor is Mr. George Clarke, A.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., and the Housing Officer is Mr. E. H. Entwisle, A.R.V.A., both of whom have made contributions to this Report.

SECTION E

Inspection of Food

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 **Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

Dealers' Licences were granted as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested milk	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sterilised milk	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	...	...	5

Sixty-five visits were made to Dairies.

Essex County Council Act, 1933. **Ice Cream Regulations.**

Number of persons registered as vendors	53
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The Register has now been brought up-to-date. The figure for vendors registered has been reduced by 40, i.e. from 93 to 53. A number of these are itinerate vendors who come into the district during the summer months.

Meat and Other Foods.

A cattle market and a general market are held on Tuesday of each week. Regular inspections are made to ensure that satisfactory conditions prevail.

The practice of washing and disinfecting vehicles conveying livestock to and from the market was effected during the year as required by the Transit of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1931.

There are four licenced slaughterhouses in the area, they are :—

1. Enfield Highway Co-operative Society Ltd.,
Sewardstone Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

2. Farmer Butcher's Ltd.,
10 Sun Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex.
3. Waltham Abbey Abattoir Ltd.,
Sewardstone, E.4.
4. Waltham Abbey Abattoir Ltd.,
Sewardstone, E.4.

The following animals were inspected during the year :—

76	Bulls
292	Cows
3,123	Steers
1,873	Heifers
2,844	Calves
11,402	Swine
8,908	Sheep and Lambs

TOTAL 28,518

The following were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

7	bovine carcasses
12	sheep carcasses
11	pigs carcasses
11	calves carcasses
64	bovine heads and tongues
8	complete sets of bovine offal
211	bovine livers
111	bovine part livers
177	bovine lungs
22	pigs heads
145	pigs plucks
45	pigs livers
50	sheep plucks
9	sheep livers
4	forequarters of beef

Total weight of meat and offal thus surrendered as unfit for human consumption was :—

7 tons, 17 cwts., 0 quarters, 15 lbs.

All meat surrendered is sold to contractors who sterilise unfit meat in steam digesters and the resulting products are utilised in industry. All other foods are rendered innocuous by boiling and used for pig food ; where this is not practicable the articles are burnt.

There was a reduction in the number of pigs slaughtered but an increase in the number of bovine animals. The time spent on inspection was consequently greater. The value of a bovine animal, in particular, to an owner is of fundamental importance to him. On the other hand the protection of the consuming public is an overriding factor. Decisions, therefore, cannot be lightly taken. Care and attention of this kind necessitates time and patience. One's judgement has to be sound, fair and if necessary defensible.

Explanations to owners of animals found to be effected with disease after slaughter takes up a considerable amount of time. Some appreciate the information given, others are harder to convince, their financial loss outweighing other considerations.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned:—

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	...	5072	292	2844	8908	11402
Number inspected ...	...	5072	292	2844	8908	11402
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :						
Whole carcasses condemned		Nil	Nil	11	12	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		220	45	Nil	59	190
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis ...	...	4.33%	15.3%	.38%	.79%	1.73%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :						
Whole carcasses condemned		2	5	Nil	Nil	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		274	71	Nil	Nil	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	...	5.4%	26.03%	Nil	Nil	.29%

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

Twenty-three slaughtermen were licensed under the above Acts during 1956.

Food & Drugs Act, 1955

All premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale were inspected. The following articles were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

- 4 tins corned beef
- 1 tin pork luncheon meat
- 1 tin minced beef loaf
- 1 tin jellied veal
- 7 tins canned tomatoes
- 1 tin mandarin oranges
- 2 tins Nestles milk
- 3 tins sliced pears
- 1 tin processed peas
- 2 tins cherries
- 1 tin golden plums
- 1 tin sliced peaches

Foods are sampled by the Weights and Measures Officer of the Essex County Council, and he supplies me with reports thereon.

The following samples were reported upon during 1956 :—

Milks (16)	...	...	...	...	Genuine
Instant Coffee (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Strawberry Jam (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Lemon Curd (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Whisky (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Sugar Frosted Flakes (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Curry Powder (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Instant Postum (1)	...	...	...	...	„
Cupkaff (1)	...	...	...	...	„

Creamola Foam Crystals (1) ...	...	..
Pork Chipolatas (1) ...	...	..
Granulated Sugar (1) ...	...	..
Buttered Roll*	...	...

*This sample was found to consist of a roll and margarine—not butter. Proceedings were instituted against the vendor but the case was dismissed and costs of £3 3s. 0d. awarded to the defendant.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

The Regulations came into operation during the year and premises were visited with a view to obtaining compliance with the requirements laid down. Where premises fell short of the requirements, works were asked for and put into effect satisfactorily.

297 visits were made to premises affected by the Regulations.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The Essex County Council deals principally with matters coming under this heading. I am informed that all samples taken for examination in the area were found to be satisfactory. In addition, 49 samples of milk and 12 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination. The samples are submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, through the Essex County Council Bacteriological Service.

Examination of ice cream samples is in accordance with the Ministry of Health's provisional grading system. Samples submitted were graded as follows :—

Grades.	Samples.
I	12

Twelve samples of milk were submitted for biological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service,

County Hall, London, S.E.1. Negative reports were made in each case. The samples are obtained at the request of the County Medical Officer and are paid for by the County Council.

Samples of milk were submitted as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested	....	....	2
Pasteurised	....	....	18
Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised....			17
Biological examination	....	....	12

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 56 factories on the register and 31 visits were made during the year. Conditions were found to be satisfactory in those premises to which visits were made. There are 23 outworkers in the area.

A number of inspections and recommendations have been made under Section 35, dealing with escape in case of fire.

W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (inc. inspections made by Public Health

Premises (1)	Inspectors)			Number of		
	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	8	8	nil	nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	48	23	nil	nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	3
		—	—	—	—	—
		56	31	nil	nil	—
		—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL						

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found					M/c line No.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

Nature of work	Section 110				Section 111			
	M/c line No.	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	M/c line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing Apparel—	13	18	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	13
Making, etc.	35	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	35
Brush Making	39	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	39
Stuffed toys	33	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	33
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	120	23	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	120

SECTION F.

(see also page 3)

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases

			Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Measles	....	....	63	6	0
Pneumonia	....	....	7	6	0
Whooping Cough	....	....	39	9	0
Scarlet Fever	....	....	2	1	0
Erysipelas	....	....	1	1	0
Dysentery	....	....	25	3	0

Tuberculosis.

Four new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

MALES		FEMALES	
Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.
1	0	3	0

There were two deaths from this disease.

No deaths

During the year the voluntary scheme for the vaccination of susceptible thirteen year old children against tuberculosis (with B.C.G. vaccine) was continued by the Essex County Council. There was a good response, 50% of parents having accepted the offer of vaccination for their children.

65

Diphtheria.

No cases were reported during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.

(1) Smallpox. 123 primary vaccinations were performed, and 2 persons were re-vaccinated—as compared with last year’s figures of 89 primary vaccinations and 6 re-vaccinations.

(2) Diphtheria. Immunisation against diphtheria have continued, 123 immunisations and 62 re-inforcing injections having been given during the year, compared with 83 and 26 in the previous year.

(3) Whooping Cough. 96 children completed the course of injections during 1956, compared with 45 in 1955.

(4) Tuberculosis. Results of the B.C.G. vaccinations of school children (13 years) during the year are given below:—

Number of school children to whom B.C.G.						
Vaccination was offered during the year						
....	....	....	....	....	....	118
Number of school children undergoing tuberculin						
test after parents consent had been received						
....	....	....	....	....	....	77
Number of children who received B.C.G.						
....	....	....	....	....	....	59
Number of cases of post-vaccination complica-						
tions	....	....	....	....	....	nil

Food Poisoning.

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

Some Notifiable Diseases during the last five years

Disease			1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet fever	...	...	17	8	42	3	2
Diphtheria	...	...	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Primary Pneumonia			9	8	4	1	7
Erysipelas	...	...	2	0	0	1	1
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia			2	1	0	0	0
Measles	...	...	115	123	4	139	63
Whooping Cough	...		2	16	0	1	39

